

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes. Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I think that the Revenue Committee would probably support Senator Warner's amendment. You know, we are not as skilled at appropriating money as Senator Warner is and so we just thought, well, we will put the money in the general fund, that would be the most important place for it to go, but Senator Warner says, you could put it in the cash reserve fund, that is even a better place because that is the money we keep on hand in case we run out of tax money along the way. And inasmuch as we are kind of putting the cigarette tax sort of in a holding pattern until we find out what happens in some other states, I think putting the money in the cash reserve fund is the better part of discretion. So I would support Senator Warner's amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Cal Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I am opposed to this whole shootin' match. In the first place, we are going to put money in a reserve fund that we are not even able to tax yet. We don't know that we will ever be able to tax it. The federal government says it is going to sunset in October, '85, but they have also got a number of bills that have been introduced this session to not reduce the cigarette tax but to add to it up to 32 or as high as 40 cents. Now for us to assume that we are going to be able to tax something out there in the blue sky seems just crazy as all get out to me and I don't care whether you want to put it in a gunny sack, it just doesn't sound feasible to me. It seems to me the proper thing to do would be to just bracket this bill right where it is at and wait and see what happens. I am opposed to the whole kaboodle. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Harold Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President and members of the body, the intent of LB 190 is very good, going to the conservation activities which we really do need, the economic development which we want to do in this state and the student aid which we also would like to fund which we have been putting off year after year. Now I am wondering, if we put this into the cash fund, which Senator Warner is talking about, will we fund these things or will it just get lost in the shuffle? That is what worries me. And I think this is the reason the introducers of the bill put it in this special